



Attorney's Docket No.: 167-456001 / 02-31-0386

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Douglas D. Sjostrom
Serial No. : 10/015,778
Filed : December 17, 2001
Title : CUTTING INSTRUMENT

Art Unit : 3763
Examiner : Vi X Nguyen

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed November 29, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

C1

1. (Once Amended) A cutting instrument, comprising
an outer member having a cutting edge; and
a helical knife coupled to the outer member for rotation relative to the outer member, at
least a portion of the helical knife having an edge configured to slice into tissue and extending
distally beyond the cutting edge of the outer member.

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5. (Once Amended) The instrument of claim 1 wherein the edge comprises a helical
edge and the helical knife includes a helical channel.